

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SAN JO 02939 181803Z

45

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 INR-10 LAB-06

NSAE-00 RSC-01 SIL-01 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 L-03 NSC-10

PA-03 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-15 TRSE-00 AID-20 RSR-01 /128 W

----- 124050

R 17720Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4839

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAN JOSE 2939

E.O. 11652: RXDS

TAGS: ELAB, CS

SUBJECT: ELECTRICAL WORKERS BACKED BY MINISTRY OF LABOR

REF: SAN JOSE 2914

1. ON AUGUST 17 THE MINISTRY OF LABOR'S
LEGAL DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDED THAT SEVEN OF
THE EIGHT SITET WORKERS FIRED BY THE COSTA
RICAN AUTONOMOUS INSTITUTE FOR ELECTRICITY
(ICE) BE RE-EMPLOYED. THE MINISTRY'S POSITION
CAME ON THE DAY BEFORE THE UNION'S DEADLINE,
GIVEN THREE WEEKS AGO TO THE MINISTRY AND ICE,
WAS DUE TO EXPIRE AND THE PROSPECT OF AN
IMMEDIATE ELECTRICAL WORKERS WALKOUT HAD BECOME
HIGHLY PROBABLE. UNION SOURCES SAY SITET HAS
GIVEN ICE UNTIL MONDAY, AUGUST 20 TO DECIDE
HOW IT WILL ACT ON THE MINISTRY'S RECOMMENDA-
TIONS. HOWEVER, SITET IS INSISTING, DESPITE
THE MINISTRY'S POSITION THAT ONE EMPLOYEE WAS
JUSTIFIABLY FIRED, THAT ALL EIGHT BE RE-
EMPLOYED BY ICE. ICE CLAIMS ALL EIGHT WERE
FIRED FOR "SABOTAGE", A CHARGE WHICH SITET
AND NOW THE MINISTRY, IN THE CASE OF
THE SEVEN, HAVE REJECTED. SITET OFFICIALS
SAY THAT THE ONE WORKER MAY POSSIBLY
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 SAN JO 02939 181803Z

HAVE DESERVED TO BE FIRED, BUT NOT FOR
THE REASONS NAMED BY ICE.

2. THE PRESS HAS YET TO PICK UP THE SITET
STORY MOSTLY BECAUSE THE MINISTRY OF LABOR
IS NOT TALKING AND MOREOVER, HAD REQUESTED SITEZZ TO
STAY AWAY FROM THE PRESS. STILL IT IS SUR-
PRISING THE PRESS HAS NOT BEGUN CARRYING THE
NOW FAIRLY WELL KNOWN CONFRONTATION.

3. A CENTRAL AMERICAN PTTI CONGRESS HELD IN
SAN JOSE THIS WEEK PUBLICLY ENDORSED THE SITET
DEMANDS. WALLACE LEGGE, PTTI LATIN AMERICAN
REPRESENTATIVE, ATTENDED SEMINARS AND CEREMONIES
WHERE THE SITET/ICE STANDOFF WAS FREQUENTLY IN
FOCUS. NOT UNEXPECTEDLY, THE U.S. EMBASSY IS
APPARENTLY BELIEVED IN SOME GOVERNMENT CIRCLES
TO BE BACKING THE WORKERS. THIS IS A CONFUSION
WHICH REPEATEDLY CROPS UP WHERE INTERNATIONAL
UNION REPRESENTATIVES -- IN THIS CASE THE PTTI
REPRESENTATIVE IN COSTA RICA WHO IS CLOSE
TO THE SITET PROBLEM -- ARE IDENTIFIED AS PART OF
THE OFFICIAL U.S. GOVERNMENT MISSION. ON THE
OTHER HAND, THE SITET WORKERS ARE SAID TO BELIEVE
THE EMBASSY IS BACKING ICE.
VAKY

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ELECTRICAL INDUSTRY, EMPLOYEE GRIEVANCES, LABOR DISPUTES, LABOR UNIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 AUG 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973SANJO02939
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS VAKY
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: SAN JOSE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730867/aaaajxzc.tel
Line Count: 91
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: SAN JOSE 2914
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 18 JAN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <18-Jan-2002 by thigpegh>; APPROVED <11 FEB 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> gwr 980311
Subject: ELECTRICAL WORKERS BACKED BY MINISTRY OF LABOR
TAGS: ELAB, CS, INSTITUTE FOR ELECTRICITY, SITET
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005